

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall
January 21, 2020

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Mark Phelps
Absent: Ken McInerney (MLP Manager)
Others Present: Keith Lacasse, Richard George, Lori Jayko

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve minutes from January 6: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 1-6-2020 Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved.

2. Public Comment: Richard George noted that he had difficulty scheduling with the Police Chief to get his pistol permit. Other residents have also had trouble. The Board will look into this to help with response time.

Lori Jayko received the Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District grant information from Richard Demyer. The Board reviewed the paperwork. Lori will type up the letter on town letterhead for the chair to sign. An invoice was submitted for the next warrant.

3. Community Host Agreement: The Board reviewed the Community Host Agreement that Legal Counsel provided. Jason asked Legal Counsel for guidance with Section 4, which concerns the police department, since the town does not have one. Mark suggested opening a discussion with Williamstown for contracting a police officer with the impact fees, for this sole purpose. He will talk to Jason Hoch, Williamstown Town Administrator. Jason and Mark think the agreement from Legal Counsel is thorough and well-written. The initial \$2,500, to cover legal fees, needs to be collected soon. Jason sent the draft agreement to Tom Davis for review. Mark will also ask Jason Hoch if Williamstown has any news about the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership grant.

4. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse turned in invoices for 10 ½ tons of cold patch. He also used what was in the Salt Shed. He patched every pot hole he could find and placed five loads of gravel and dirt at the guardrail on Greylock Road, where there was washout. He attended the pre-construction conference for Route 7 paving. Northeast Paving (Lane) will do the job. Keith inquired about getting the leftover millings. The paving will start on the north end of town. The road will be milled and then paved with Super Pave, one lane at a time. The set up will begin in March, and the paving in April. Keith told the DOT about recent problems with the state highway not being sanded and salted. They gave Keith the phone number for the head of the Mass DOT. The state is aware there are problems and they are working to correct it.

There is no new beaver activity on Ingraham Road.

There are concerns about running out of salt this year. There was more than enough salt in the shed for the season. It takes two loads to salt the whole town. The Board may put a camera on the Salt Shed to monitor usage.

5. Broadband: There is a final check-in call with Whip City to wrap up construction. After that, customers will be responsible for the cost of their hook-up. The broadband bills have exceeded what was appropriated from the Special Town Meeting. Ken and Jason will review the bills for accuracy. MBI will grant the town \$7,500. The Enterprise Fund bills should be on their own warrant. There are 83 active customers.

6. Any other unforeseen business: Jason is scheduling a meeting with the Fire Chief and all Select Board members. The Fire Chief is an appointed position which needs to be added to the appointment list.

7. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting February 3 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:27